**Application No.: 10/617,773** 

## **REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action dated June 30, 2006, Applicants have amended claims 6, 7, and 10 - 13 and have canceled claims 5, 8, and 9. No new matter has been added.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 6, 7, and 10 - 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants have rewritten each of these claims into independent format.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

Please recognize our Customer No. 20277 as our correspondence address.

600 13<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096 Phone: 202.756.8000 MEF:DAB

Facsimile: 202.756.8087 **Date: October 2, 2006**